

Message Text

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TAGS:ESCAP:OCON:TQ

SUBJ:ESCAP:ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVES,
15TH SESSION, JANUARY 13, 1976, BANGKOK

1. SUBJECT MEETING CHARECTERIZED BY ORDERLY DISCUSSION PROVI-
SIONAL AGENDA (OES/ACPR/68) UNDER ABLE CHAIRMANSHIP OF BENGALI
PERMREP.

2. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY NOTED THAT FULL DISCUSSION OF PROGRAMME
OF WORK 1976-77 (OES/ACPR/70) AND MEDIUM-TERM PLAN 1978-1981
(OES/ACPR/69) WOULD BE DEFERRED TO EXTRAORDINARY 16TH SESSION
ACPR SCHEDULED JANUARY 29 VIEW VERY LATE RECEIPT BY PERMREPS
OF DRAFT WORKING DOCUMENTS. OF NOTE WAS ADMISSION PUBLICY
FOR FIRST TIME OUR RECOLLECTION BY SECRETARIAT THAT PROLIFERA-
TION OF PROJECTS UNDER PROGRAMME OF WORK MUST BE REDUCED. MARAMIS
ACKNOWLEDGED AND AGREED WITH CONCERN EXPRESSED HIM RECENTLY
IN PRIVATE BY SOME PERMREPS THAT PROGRAMME OF WORK WAS NOT RPT
NOT MATCHED BY ADEQUATE FUNDING.

3. JAPAN RAISED INTERESTING ISSUE RE AGENDA ITEM 4 - MEDIUM-
TERM PLAN 1978-1981 (DOCUMENT AIR MAILED STOKES, IO/CMD,

1/13/76). DOCUMENT DESCRIBES ESCAP ACTIVITIES IN AREAS PER UNNY
REQUEST ZUT UNRANKED AS TO PRIORITY. JAPAN SOUGHT CLARIFICATION
RE LARGE NUMBER OF PROGRAM AREAS VIEW 30TH SESSION RESOLUTION
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TO ISOLATE FIVE PROGRAM AREAS FOR PRIORITY TREATMENT. SECRETA-

RIAT'S FEEBLE RESPONSE THAT REQUEST WAS FROM UNNY THUS PERMITS PROLIFERATION OF ESCAP PROGRAMME OF WORK UNDER QUASI UNNY ENDORSEMENT. SECRETARIAT NOTED THAT WHILE EARLIER FIVE PRIORITIES STILL VALID, SOME EVOLUTION IS UNDERWAY THEIR THINKING. UNBELIEVABLY CONCEPT OF PROJECT RANKING BY PRIORITY WAS CHALLENGED DURING EXCHANGE BY ESCAP NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION CHIEF IN TERMS SUFFICIENTLY CLEAR TO SUGGEST THE SECRETARIAT DIVISION CHIEFS ARE INTENT ON BUSINESS AS USUAL DESPITE THE EXECSEC'S ADMONITION TO DO WHAT IS ACHIEVABLE WITHIN RESOURCE PARAMETERS.

4. CURRENT UNDP FUNDING FREEZE RE JOINT ESCAP/UNDP REGIONAL PROJECTS NOTED WITH SOME CONCERN. EXECSEC URGED ESCAP MEMBER COUNTRIES CURRENTLY ON UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL TO USE INFLUENCE. SECRETARIAT NOTED THAT DESPITE UNDP FREEZE AND FUNDING SHORTFALLS OTHER SOURCES, PLANNED PROJECTS WOULD NOT BE DROPPED BUT RATHER QUOTE REPHASED FROM 1976 TO 1977 UNQUOTE.

5. LAOS REPRESENTED AT SUBJECT MEETING BY PERMREP TIAO SONSADATH VONGKOTH, WHO WILL DEPART POST SOON, AND BY KATH DITTHAVONG WHO WILL SUCCEED VONGKOTH AS PERMREP. NO OTHER INFO AVAILABLE. VIET NAM AND KHMER NOT REPRESENTED.
WHITEHOUSE

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